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APRIL 9, 1998

THE PAN AMERICAN



**Campus
Faces**

**Broncs split
doubleheader
with St. Mary's**

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - PAN AMERICAN

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Catcher Juan Rangel stretches for home plate as he is tagged out in Game 1. Photo by Reina Martinez



The University of Texas - Pan American
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THE PAN AMERICAN is an official publication of The University of Texas-Pan American and is produced in the Communication Department. Views presented are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the university administration. Letters to the Editor must include your name, address, and phone number. They will be printed on a space available basis.

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THE MONITOR

GUSTAVO'S COMIX



EDITOR'S CORNER



Too bad our wild and crazy excuses do not work with our professors. Probably because at one time they were sitting in that same desk at one time trying to explain away their missing term paper, textbook, or the week-long absence to visit the long lost Aunt who just turned up last week and was now in Florida on the beach recovering and needed your immediate presence.

If it worked I would blame all the little mistakes this newspaper has from time to time as the computer's faults... or it was because I stayed up to four in the morning watching a basketball game on tape and can't see too clearly, or it was because it was too noisy in the newsroom (I just couldn't concentrate man!) but no!

The reasons we have excuses and reasons is because human nature does not allow us to damage our ego by admitting we are wrong. Yet at times we all laspe in judgment, execution, and reasoning. Some more than others, and at times that affects those around us... So for the mistakes in copy, credit, or otherwise fallacies in this paper I will admit and carry that fault and burden. Never wanted to be perfect until everyone else started thinking things should be... Ha! I could blame them but that is jumping right back into the spin cycle.

There is no such thing as the perfect excuse but a lot of you are still trying!
Enjoy your Easter and extra long weekend! -Until Next Time,

mmilam1@panam.edu

Proposal could lower the age for death penalty

AUSTIN (AP) — Children as young as 11 could be sentenced to death for capital murder under a proposal by a state lawmaker whose own son is just that age.

"I hope my child is a Beaver Cleaver. ... I think there are 11-year-olds out there that would be capable of premeditated murder," said Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, pointing to the recent school yard shootings in Arkansas.

Pitts outlined his proposals to increase penalties available against juveniles who commit violent crimes Monday, the same day death-penalty opponents including Amnesty International USA announced new efforts to restrict Texas executions.

"This idea of killing 11-year-olds, or having them charged as adults, does not answer a principal issue in this society: How do we get the best out of our human resources? It certainly won't be to kill the young," said Samuel Jordan, director of the Program to Abolish the Death Penalty of Amnesty International USA.

"I don't think it has a great deal of chances for success if the people of Texas urge their representatives to enact laws that have morality," he added.

Pitts, who plans to introduce the juvenile crime package when lawmakers meets in regular session in January, said his proposals would give greater leeway to local district attorneys and courts.

"I am not saying that every 11-year-old who commits a crime should be tried as an adult. I want to give an option to a district attorney, if they feel like they have enough evidence and the right kid, they ought to be able to have the option to try this kid as an adult," Pitts said.

His proposals include lowering from 17 to 11 the age at which a youngster is

eligible to be charged with capital murder, and lowering from 14 to 10 the age at which a child can be certified and tried in the adult criminal justice system.

Under the proposal, someone as young as 11 who is convicted of capital murder could face either life without parole or the death penalty. Pitts' aide, Rusty Ballard, said life without parole also would be an option in non-capital murders, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Capital murders have an enhancing factor, such as being committed during a robbery. Under current law, a person can be sentenced to death for a crime committed at age 16, but the execution is not carried out until the person is at least 17, said Ron Dusek of the state attorney general's office.

If approved, the plan likely would take effect with offenses committed after Sept. 1, 1999, Pitts said. Amnesty International's recommendations, in a report called "The Death Penalty in Texas: Lethal Injustice," include:

Minimum standards for lawyers to represent indigent defendants charged with or convicted of capital murder. "Humanitarian criteria" for the granting of clemency in capital cases. Ceasing executions of juveniles, the mentally retarded and the mentally ill. While seeking these changes, the group continues to oppose the death penalty.

A number of lawmakers have expressed an interest in such alternatives as a life sentence without parole, he said. Death penalty opponents plan meetings with lawmakers, public organizations and grassroots representatives to work for change, Jordan said. The U.S. Supreme Court allowed executions to resume in 1976. Texas since has executed 147 people. Texas's 37 executions last year made up half the national tally.

"I want to give an option to a district attorney, if they feel like they have enough evidence and the right kid, they ought to be able to have the option to try this kid as an adult."

-Rep. Jim Pitts

Q & A

What do you do in your spare time?

by Charlie Rodriguez



Karina Rodriguez
Sophomore
Nursing

I enjoy reading. I think reading is relaxing and it helps distract you from the day's problems. I'm usually reading magazines like *People* or sometimes *Vogue*.



Jose L. Araujo
Sophomore
Mechanical
Engineering

I really don't have too much spare time. When I do I read, sports magazines are my favorite or muscle car magazines.



Sonia Lopez
Graduate
Police Administration

I'm really short on spare time, but I try to make time for my friends. We like spending time together and we usually go to the movies.



Adrain Cantu
Criminal Justice
Junior

I enjoy being with my friends or my girlfriend. We talk about what's going on in each other's lives. We also talk about how things are going in school.



Tammy Caldwell
Freshman
Psychology

Ever since I was little, I've been helping my Mom with her business in Raymondville. She owns a salon and she makes floral arrangements.

Should a university censor student E-mail?



Juan Lopez
Sophomore
Accounting

No. What a person does with their E-Mail should be left up to them. After all, it is their E-Mail address. The regular mail is not censored. Why should E-Mail be censored?



Yanette Torres
Junior
Education

Yes. The university has the responsibility to be aware of the use of the Internet and also the security of the students.

"Universities are concerned about libel and slander. By operating E-mail systems, does the university become responsible for what gets posted there?"

-Peter Burke

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — University of Maine sophomore Casey Belanger sat down at the computer in his dorm room and typed a nasty, threatening message to a fellow student he had never met.

Using a slur for homosexuals, he wrote that if he saw the student, "I'm gonna shoot you in the back of the (expletive) head." Inadvertently, he sent the message onto campus computer bulletin boards, including one run by a gay-lesbian group.

A week later, the state attorney general slapped the 19-year-old with a hate crime lawsuit, accusing him of violating the civil rights of homosexuals.

"I don't even know the guy," Belanger said in a telephone interview from the campus in Orono. "I was just mouthing off."

On the Internet and via E-mail, threats and offensive jokes fly through cyberspace between anonymous users, often without repercussions. But when such expressions appear on college and university computer networks, they can trigger complaints or even criminal investigations.

They can also set off a debate pitting First Amendment rights against campus administrators' authority and responsibilities.

"Universities are concerned about libel and slander," said Peter Burke, an attorney in the corporate technology practice group at Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy, an Atlanta and Washington law firm. "By operating E-mail systems, does the university become responsible for what gets posted there?"

In some cases, Burke said, universities and colleges are walking the tightrope between censorship and free speech.

"Some universities are overreacting. They're treating electronic mail differently than they would treat communications using a pen and paper," said Barry Steinhardt, president of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco-based online civil liberties organization.

Steinhardt said colleges don't appear

to care where students send their mail via the U.S. Postal Service, but with E-mail and the Internet there is a trail they can follow.

The University of Maine case is one of many:

At Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., four freshmen sent a derogatory "joke" about women to their friends through E-mail. The message was sent in 1995 to 20 of the students' friends, who then passed it along to countless Internet E-mail addresses, prompting angry responses from across the country. The four were required to attend rape awareness classes.

At the University of North Carolina, officials closed an E-mail account belonging to a former student after a racist message from that account was posted on at least 10 Internet news groups. Anyone reading the joke about "why all blacks should go back to Africa" could see that it originated at the university.

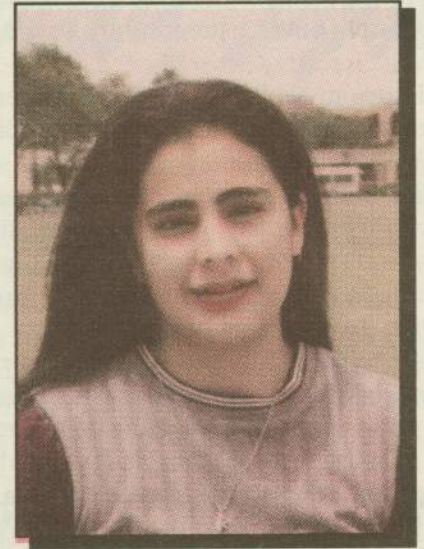
Offensive or not, many would argue such postings are free speech, especially on campus, where ideas are continuously debated, Burke said.

"Do we have people deciding what ideas are good or bad?" he said. "Don't say that, it might offend somebody. 'We'd rather you speak good ideas so everyone is happy.'"

David Merkowitz, a spokesman for the American Council on Education, a Washington-based trade association for 1,800 colleges and universities, said incidents on campus are forcing more and more educators to reassess E-mail and computer use policies.

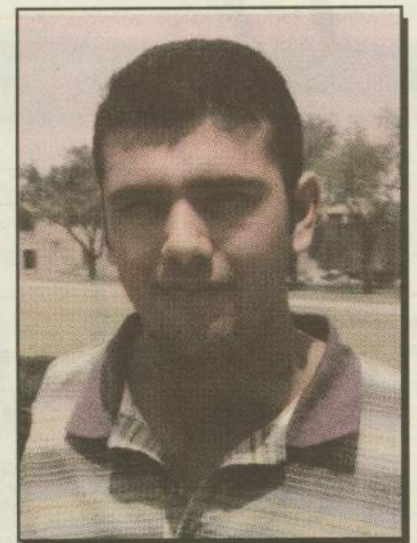
Maine Attorney General Andrew Ketterer said there's an easy way to know when speech is inappropriate and possibly illegal: People should not be scared by a message they receive through their computer.

"I think that people may say, 'Hey, I got a First Amendment right to say whatever I want,'" Ketterer said. But he added: "It does not include the right to threaten."



Livia Lozano
Sophomore
Speech Therapy

No. I feel that what an individual does on the computer is his or her own business and should not concern anyone else.



Roel Prenteria
Freshman
Art

No. Most people on the Internet are just fooling around with the computer, and do not want to feel like they are being watched.

More gay teachers are coming out, but not without controversy

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. (AP) — Only the San Francisco Bay separates them. But they may as well be worlds apart. One, a former high school science teacher in San Leandro, came out as a lesbian to her students during a lesson on tolerance last fall, only to resign amid a flurry of controversy.

"Is this individual ill, seriously insecure, trying to incite problems, or predatory?" parents James and Vicki Godkin wrote in a letter demanding that the school district fire her.

Across the bay in San Francisco, Larry Alegre, a gay assistant principal, was promoted from a teaching position at an elementary school where his sexual orientation is well known.

"Why are you gay?" pupils sometimes ask. "Does your mother know?"

Although he shuns questions that are too personal, Alegre preaches respect and tolerance. "I tell them that it's just important that they know that I'm gay and a good person," says Alegre, who knows he could not have this sort of conversation in most school districts.

There is nothing new about gay and lesbian teachers in the classroom. Although exact numbers aren't available, authorities say there are probably thousands nationwide. Most are closeted, often choosing to live and socialize outside the communities where they teach, thus avoiding scrutiny by those who believe that homosexuals should not work with children.

A small but growing number of teachers are, however, coming out sometimes by directly telling students, and more often by simply refusing to edit themselves when talking about their partners.

"All the straight women who are called Mrs. are doing the same thing I did," says the San Leandro science teacher, who agreed to be interviewed on condition she not be named as she searches for a

new teaching job. The revelation is, after all, a risky one.

A Utah teacher is fighting back with a lawsuit against the school district that has banned her from talking about her sexual orientation, even outside the classroom. Wendy Weaver, a high school psychology teacher in Spanish Fork, Utah, says she doesn't discuss her lesbianism at school. But she does show up at public events such as a community ballgame with her partner and their children.

A measure that would create federal protection against job discrimination for lesbians and gay men - the Employment Non-Discrimination Act - may be reconsidered by Congress this year after failing in the Senate by one vote in 1996. Ten states, including California, have such anti-bias statutes.

"I just got to the point that it would take more energy to hide it," says Weaver, who divorced her husband before moving in with her partner. Weaver lost her volleyball coaching job after administrators heard about her new relationship last summer.

A measure that would create federal protection against job discrimination for lesbians and gay men - the Employment Non-Discrimination Act - may be reconsidered by Congress this year after failing in the Senate by one vote in 1996. Ten states, including California, have such anti-bias statutes. Maine residents recently voted to drop their state's protections, underscoring the fact that gay teachers come out at their own risk in most states. That is especially true in states such as Utah, where sex outside marriage

and sodomy are illegal.

"A teacher fired solely because of sexual orientation would have a much stronger case in California than in Utah," says Darren Hutchinson, a professor of law at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Federal free-speech protection under the First Amendment could be cited, he added.

David Buckel, an attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which fights for gay rights, has handled 15 discrimination claims by teachers in the last year. Rather than firing them, citing sexual orientation, districts often find other ways to "make life so awful for the teacher that they can't bear to stay," he said.

Some parents insist they are not anti-gay but simply want teachers to stick to English, math and chemistry, rather than lifestyle lessons.

"San Leandro High has pursued social engineering and has left academics in the background. That may give the teachers a warm, fuzzy feeling, but that doesn't prepare our kids for college," says Jeff Lanet, a member of a group that protested the science teacher's use of class time to come out.

Some cite religious reasons for shielding their children from talk of gay issues. Mike Trelow, a parent from Alameda, tried unsuccessfully to get teacher Victoria Forrester's teaching credentials yanked following a student-initiated classroom discussion about the coming-out episode of the "Ellen" TV show last April.

"It's about respect for the family and sensitivity to a family's decisions," says Brad Dacus, Trelow's attorney. But some parents sensed something more.

"My personal opinion is, if Miss Forrester were not gay, this parent would not have forced this issue," says Julie Bonachea, one of several parents rallying around the teacher, who never told her pupils - fifth and sixth graders - that she's a lesbian.

Texas school districts resisting children-at-work day

AUSTIN (AP) — Spending a day with Mom or Dad at work may be a good learning experience for children, but it is not important enough to warrant losing class time which could be spent preparing for the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test, according to many state educators.

School districts across the state will observe Take Our Daughters to Work Day this year in the summer instead of April 23, when other schools across the nation will participate in the national program.

"Texas is the only state that has changed the date that we're aware of," said Heidi Burbage, program organizer for the New York-based Ms. Foundation for Women. The foundation created the event in 1993 to educate girls about their career options. The program was recently expanded to include boys.

After some schools complained about the program, the Texas Education Agency told districts that they could find alternative dates and several schools jumped at the opportunity. Eanes, Round Rock, Florence, Hutto, Seguin, Dripping Springs and Leander are all looking for substitute dates. Pflugerville selected the third Wednesday in July, while Georgetown won't observe the day

at all. The Del Valle district is giving students several options, including a summer date and other spring times. Students in the Dallas district will observe the day on June 9.

"The Texas Education Agency had great intentions. Ultimately, it's created some chaos," Burbage said.

The Austin district already moved their date to April 24, which is a student holiday, said Mel Coleman, who is with the district.

"If you have kids you're trying to get high TAAS scores on and need to focus on reading, writing and math, and you take a day, that really makes a difference," Coleman said. "Nobody wants to be on the low-performing list. We want every instructional day that we can get."

But Melissa Silverstein, chief of staff for the Ms. Foundation, said allowing alternate dates misses the point.

"It upsets us that the girls are going to lose out," Ms. Silverstein said. "It won't be organized on the day the country is doing it. The educational value of the day will not be a priority. Summer is summer."

APRIL

TODAY: PLAY DAY – UTPA play day with games and prizes, sponsored by UPB, Noon to 1 p.m. in the UC Circle.

WEDNESDAY: BASEBALL – Broncs vs. New Orleans (two games) at 4 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

SATURDAY: BASEBALL – Broncs vs. New Orleans at 1 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

SATURDAY: PICNIC – Parent-child picnic. Magicians, games, food and Easter egg hunt, sponsored by UPB, 2 - 5 p.m. in the UC Circle.

TUESDAY: CONCERT – Jazz Ensemble concert at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

TUESDAY: HEALTH FAIR – Student Health Services will host a health fair for students, faculty and staff 9-3 p.m. in the University Ballroom.

16 TOURNAMENT, Putt-O-Rama, sponsored by UPB, 11 to 1 p.m. in the UC Circle.

6 JOB FAIR: Career day for teachers 2 - p.m. in the University Fieldhouse.

21 WORKSHOP: Job interviewing from Noon to 1 p.m. in Room 153 Student Services Building.

21 TELECONFERENCE: Noon to 3 p.m. in the Engineering Building Auditorium. Topic: "The Changing American College Student: Implications for the Freshman Year and Beyond."

22 - 26 PLAY: The Triumph of Love at 8 p.m. (2 p.m. Sunday) at the University Theatre.

24 BASEBALL: Broncs vs. Arkansas State (two games) at 4 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

25 BASEBALL: Broncs vs. New Orleans at 1 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

26 JOB FAIR: Health Career Day from 9 a.m. to Noon in the University Center Ballroom.

28 CONCERT: UTPA Choir at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

30 TALENT SHOWCASE: Open microphone for students, staff and faculty, sponsored by UPB, Noon to 1 p.m. in the UC Circle.

2 BASEBALL: Broncs vs. Arkansas - Little Rock (two games) at 4 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

2 KARATE: UTPA Health and Kinesiology Club Karate Championships at Noon in Physical Education Building 2, Gym 118.

3 BASEBALL: Broncs vs. New Orleans at 1 p.m. in Jody Ramsey Stadium.

5 CINCO DE MAYO: May 5 Celebration with live music and food, sponsored by UPB, 11 to 1 p.m. in the UC Circle.

7 RECEPTION: Student Art Show reception from 7 to 9 p.m. in the University Gallery.

16 GRADUATION: Commencement ceremonies

11 a.m. College of Health Sciences and Human Services

College of Arts and Humanities

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

2 p.m. College of Education

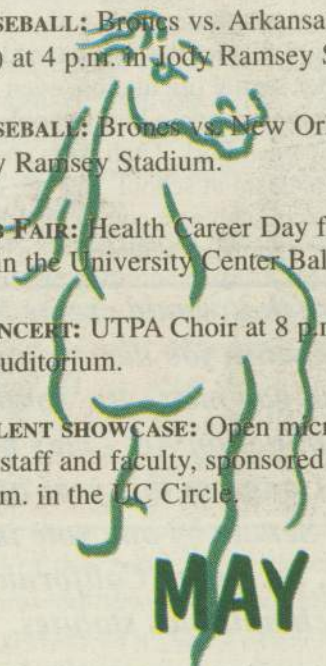
5 p.m. College of Business Administration

College of Science and Engineering

FOR INFORMATION

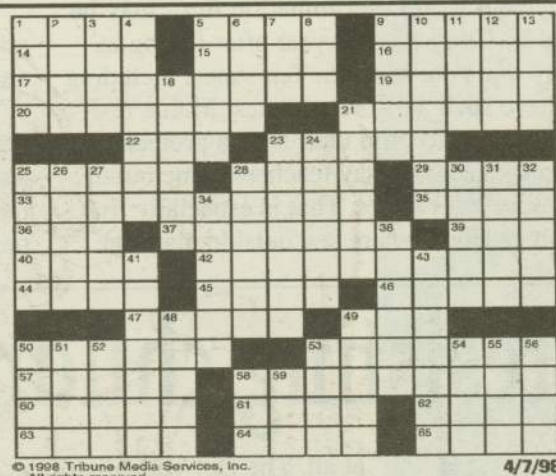
Art Department 381-3480
Athletic Department 381-2221
Folkloric Dance Company .. 381-2230
Intramural office 381-3673
Music Department 381-3471
UTPA Theatre Box Office .. 381-3581

If your club or organization has an upcoming campus activity, *The Pan American* would like to post it in this Calendar. Send it to CAS 170 by NOON Thursday at least one week in advance.



ACROSS
1 Hematite and galena, e.g.
5 Punch
9 Past prime, breadwise
14 Open slipper
15 vera
16 Tint
17 Making picks
19 "The Cloak" or "The Bat," e.g.
20 Citadel of Moscow
21 Throbs
22 Behold
23 Twenty
25 Roller blade
28 Brewed drinks
29 Lip
33 Bible book
35 Web location
36 Exist
37 Dines at a diner
39 Actor Duryea
40 Ice mass
42 Nike, Reebok, et al.
44 Fill too much
45 Dispatch
46 Sierra
47 Mountains
49 Tended tots
50 Cringes in fear
53 Flag-raiser
57 Apso
58 Hepburn film
60 Buenos
61 Slow flow
62 Involved with
63 Largesse recipient
64 Catches sight of
65 Profound

DOWN
1 Siberian city
2 One with regrets
3 Model
4 Macpherson
5 Composer Erik
6 Lena or Ken
7 Cellmate
8 Beer barrel
9 Use elbow



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4/7/98

grease
10 Naked to the waist
11 Pub choices
12 Traditional wisdom
13 Memorable times
18 "Fawtly Towers" star
21 Nocturnal marsupial, casually
23 Annual cycles
24 Went by dugout
25 Wound surfaces
26 Divided Asian nation
27 On the qui vive
28 Gave 10 percent
30 Gave a hand
31 Ringo or Bart
32 Intuit
34 Gives lip
38 Mexican menu item
41 New York river

43 Noisy grasshopper
48 Expunge
49 Wise ones
50 Dressed (in)
51 Buckeye state
52 Tip off

53 Vague state of mind
54 First-class
55 Memory method
56 Hit the dirt
58 Mayday letters
59 Lower digit



©1997 ADAM "SMELL MY KOSHER MEAT" GREEN

Workshop teaches students how to create a professional resume

Eight students who saw the need for a professional resume took advantage of the Resume Writing Workshop Tuesday in the Student Service Building. The Placement Office sponsors the workshops, which are held several times a year, to help students develop the necessary skills needed to write a professional resume.

During the workshop, students wrote a first draft of their resume, which later they can bring to the Placement Office to receive suggestions on how to improve the resume. Examples of professional resumes were used as guides.

"My reason for setting up these workshops is to show the students the importance of a resume. Many students in the workshops have never put together a resume and do not know where to begin," said Enedelia Kidd, Specialist, Placement, Testing and Cooperative Education.

Several of the students that attended were graduating and getting ready to look for employment. The workshop offered these students a chance to see what will be expected of them in the professional world.

"I try to help the students get a better understanding of what their career goals are, what they want out of a job, and to understand themselves better," said



"My reason for setting up these workshops is to show the students the importance of a resume. Many students in the workshops have never put together a resume and do not know where to begin."

-Enedelia Kidd

Kidd.

The students in the resume workshop were asked to follow up the workshop with a personal visit to the Placement Office for a one on one consultation and polishing of their resumes final draft.

"I did not know that the university offered this service until today. It is a big help to the students," said Jennifer Garcia, Junior, Art.

According to Kidd, the Placement Office will offer assistance to any student who asks for help. This includes everything from providing training to helping students prepare for an actual interview.

The average number of students in the workshops is ten. Kidd feels that small workshops offer more to the students.

"It is nice to keep the workshops small so I can work with each student individually and have the opportunity to get to know them a little," said Kidd.

In conjunction with the resume writing workshop, the Placement Office also offers a workshop that helps students sharpen their job interviewing skills. These workshops are open to all UTPA students.

A job interviewing skills workshop will be held April 21.

-Jeff Owens / The Pan American

Jazz Ensemble to perform April 14

Jazz fans, swing music lovers, and UTPA students, the UTPA Jazz Ensemble will be performing a Jazz Concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Fine Arts Auditorium.

"The ensemble is made up of (students with) all different majors that want to play and have a love for jazz music," said Dr. Dean Canty, Director and Conductor of the Jazz Ensemble.

Featured at the concert are two different bands that will be performing. There will be one large 16 piece band that will be playing "Big Band" music. The other band is the UTPA Jazz Combo that is composed of five students and will be performing swing, latin, and contemporary jazz works.

Senior citizen, students, and faculty tickets at the door are \$2 with I.D. and \$3 for the general public. Doors will be open at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the Department of Music at 381-3471.



THE PAN AMERICAN wishes you a
Happy Easter.

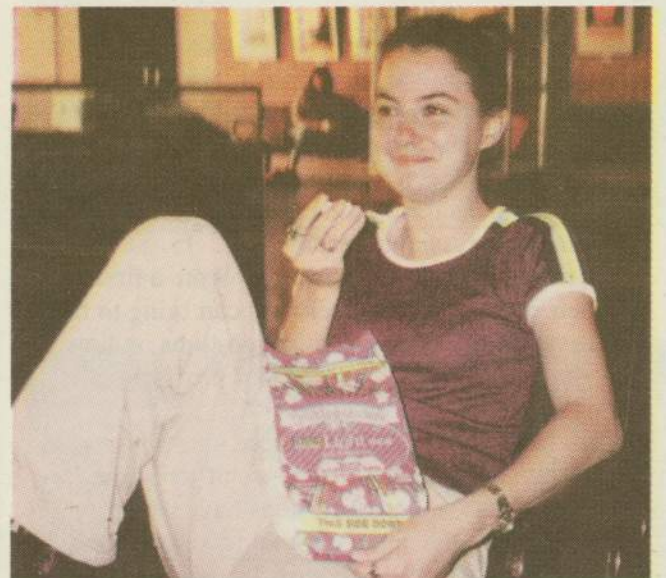
by Geronimo Disla



Gracie Trevino



Bonnie Villarreal



Ellen Brooks



Luis Bazan



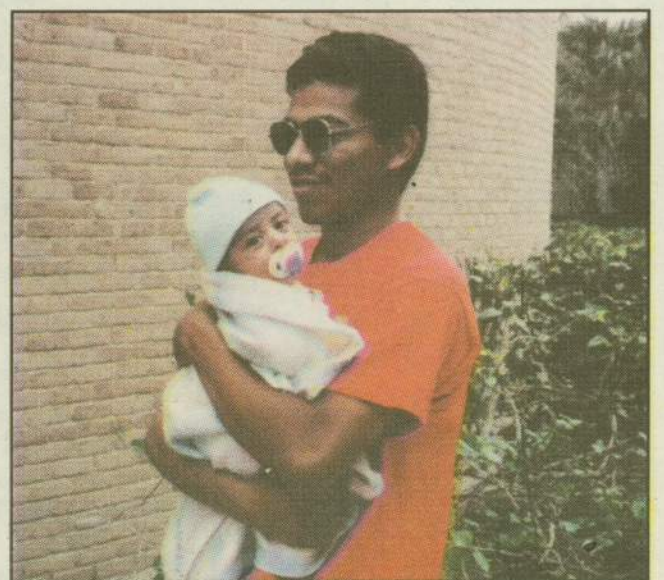
Marifina Gonzalez



Gina Dera

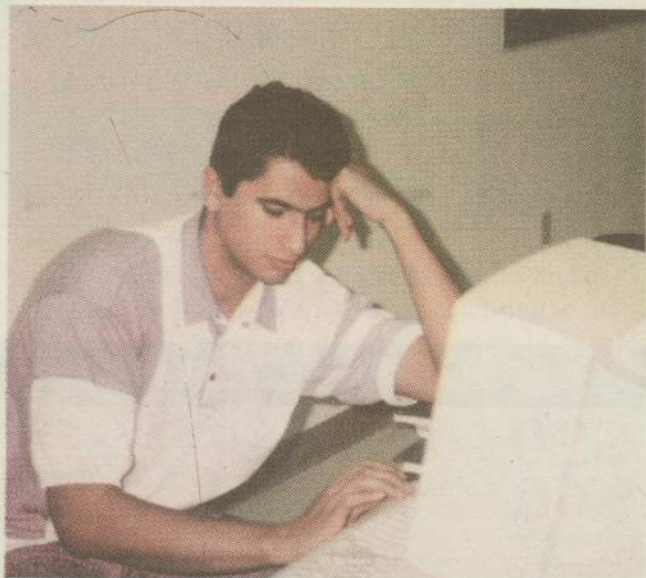


Claudia Gonzalez



Raymundo Elvira

by Edgar Sandoval



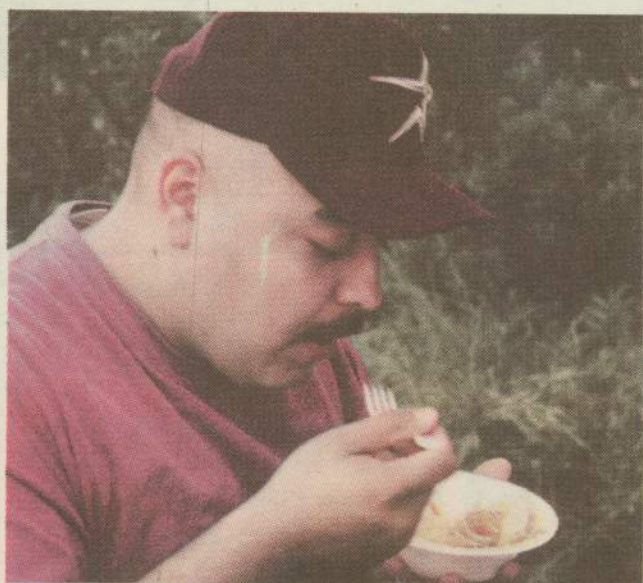
Juan Martinez



Linda Chavez



Veronica Chavez



Joe Zuniga



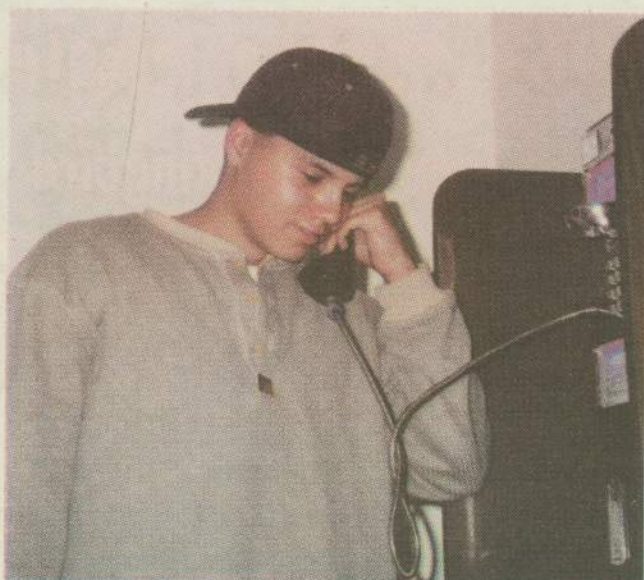
Melissa Hernandez



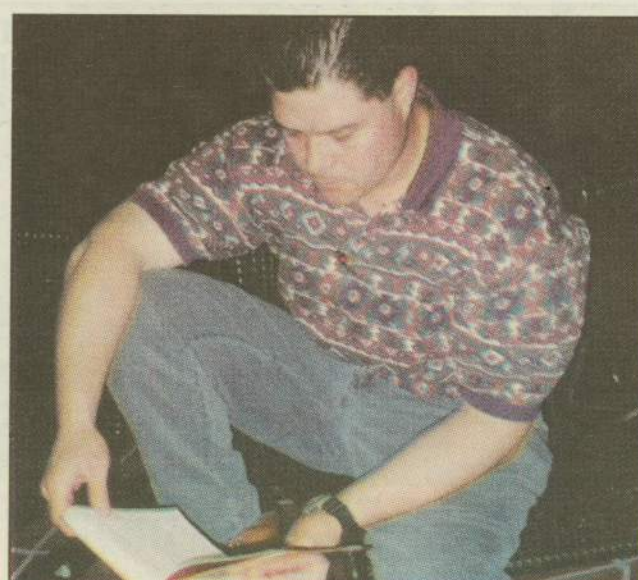
Raul Guevara



Julio Regalado



Victor Hernández



Jesse Vazquez

Classifieds

For Rent: Mobile Home. \$240. Utilities included. Close to U.T.P.A. 630-3853.

Festival Acapulco '98. May 14-19. \$220. Call Alex after 5:00 p.m. 843-7927.

Apartment for rent: Across UT-PA. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Walk-in closets. Kitchen appliances. W/D connection. Call 381-0707 for Spring Special.

Seguin Independent School District

JOB FAIR

WHEN IS IT?

Saturday, April 18, 1998
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

WHERE IS IT?

Seguin ISD Oak Park Mall
1221 E. Kingsbury St. (Hwy 90)
Seguin, Texas

FOR MORE INFO CALL:

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Ext. 222

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RECORD REVIEW



'Van Halen III'
-Van Halen
Warner Bros.

Best of the
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by Josue I. Gonzalez

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Progressive Van Halen album debuts new Singer while All Saints comes kicking

Van Halen III marks the third incarnation of the group Van Halen, and while faces change and years pass by, the band keeps cranking out premiere rock music. Behind the ageless progression of guitarist Eddie Van Halen, his brother Alex on drums, Michael Anthony on bass, and new vocalist Gary Cherone, the legend continues.

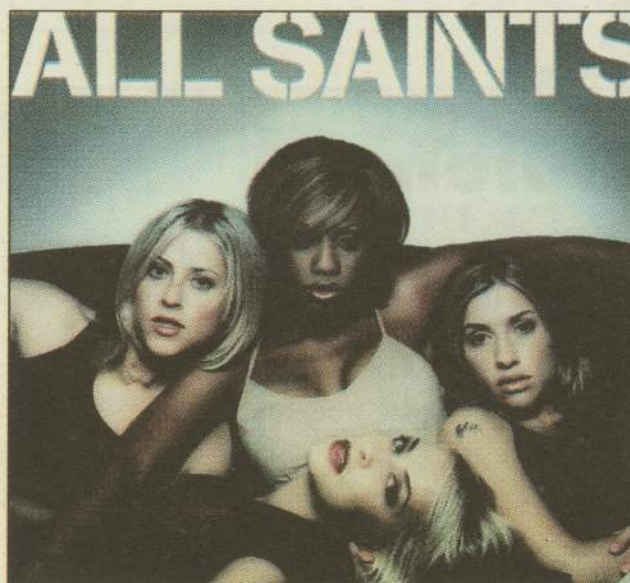
And while Gary Cherone has brought his style and influence to the sound, the addition gives the Van Halen format -quite successful on its own - added dimension and spark. Cherone's range and character strike me as closer to David Lee Roth than Sammy Hagar. A hell of a singer, he really lays it all out on his debut. Check out - and the steady 'Josephina'.

Speaking of Eddie Van Halen, the guiding soul of this band again shines. You have to be impressed how this guitar legend continually progresses as a player. This album is a hallmark in Eddie's career, for unlike past releases his strength on guitar is not the only foundation upon which the recording rested. Still in the spotlight on several tracks - check out the work on 'From Afar' for a lesson - Eddie can at least

afford himself the opportunity to experiment and tinker with his diversity, and with the assurance of a steady background in Alex and Michael Eddie can stretch a bit.

Highlights of the album include the captivating 'Once' - very progressive and subtle the song speaks to you on several levels. Layered with acoustic effects the song is a stunning secret hidden in the middle of the album. An instant attraction was 'Without You' - current the radio favorite of choice. A decidedly rocking song that kicks the speakers. Yet the best groove on the disc was 'Primary' - an instrumental track that lets Eddie rip and tear on his funky, highly charged improv-like jam session which leads into the aggressive 'Ballot or the Bullet'.

In the end I must give this album high praise for the highly progressive rock and its abundant energy. For traditional Van Halen fans - and count me - we are even farther than we were with Sammy but I encourage the attentive listening and patience to accept this sound and direction of Van Halen. This is a good album and a solid step up. **-Mark M. Milam**



'All Saints'
ALL SAINTS
London Records

From London come the next Spice Girls! Not that these girls wouldn't mind the smashing success of the Spice Girls but the four ladies who collectively make music under the moniker of All Saints want you to remember them not the four barbie dolls from hell!

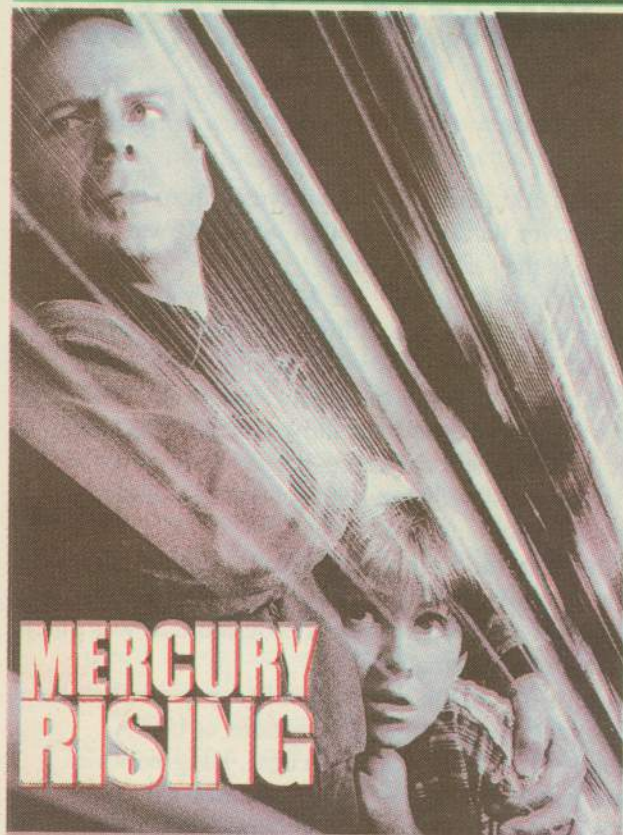
All Saints actual have talent to back up the packaging. Currently making the radio playlist with the R&Bish single 'I Know Where It's At.' The group has recorded a stylish debut that has a mixed pot of songs - namely of the dance and R&B variety but they do it well... Unlike the Four Spices or whatever you call them!

The Red Hot Chili Peppers must feel honor by All Saints because the ladies recorded an off-beat version of the hit single 'Under The Bridge' - maybe even anybody could straighten out RHCP it could be the fine sultry souls that are kicking across the dance floors and air waves.

A solid choice if you like the sounds of say - TLC, En Vogue and the like - slow and danceable at points, upbeat and grinding at other spots, the album works it groove!

-Mark M. Milam

MOVIE REVIEW



Fast paced action and touching drama make *Mercury Rising* a must see!

For FBI agent Art Jeffries (Bruce Willis) life is spinning out of his control. Fresh from a botched undercover assignment - of which he was made the scapegoat - Jeffries now must battle an agency that not only distrusts him, fearing that he might be a psychotic and delusional, but has assigned one of their best undercover men to the menial task of breaking in a rookie on the wire-tap gig. Add to this Jeffries growing dependence on pills, beer, and the inability to shake the demons of his past - and you have a man who is falling fast.

That is until Jeffries is sent to investigate the case of a missing nine-year autistic child, Simon (Miko Hughes), whose parents have been murdered. Suddenly a renewed spirit comes to life as Simon not only touches the hardened, lost soul of Jeffries but literally challenges both of them to stay alive.

For Simon has remarkably cracked a secret government communications code and now he is a wanted man. Wanted by the FBI, by Washington, by the National Security Agency and the only thing between them and the remarkable little boy is the determination and quick pistol of Agent Jeffries - who realizes that sometimes standing up for somebody who needs help is more important than the high ideals and motives of a government.

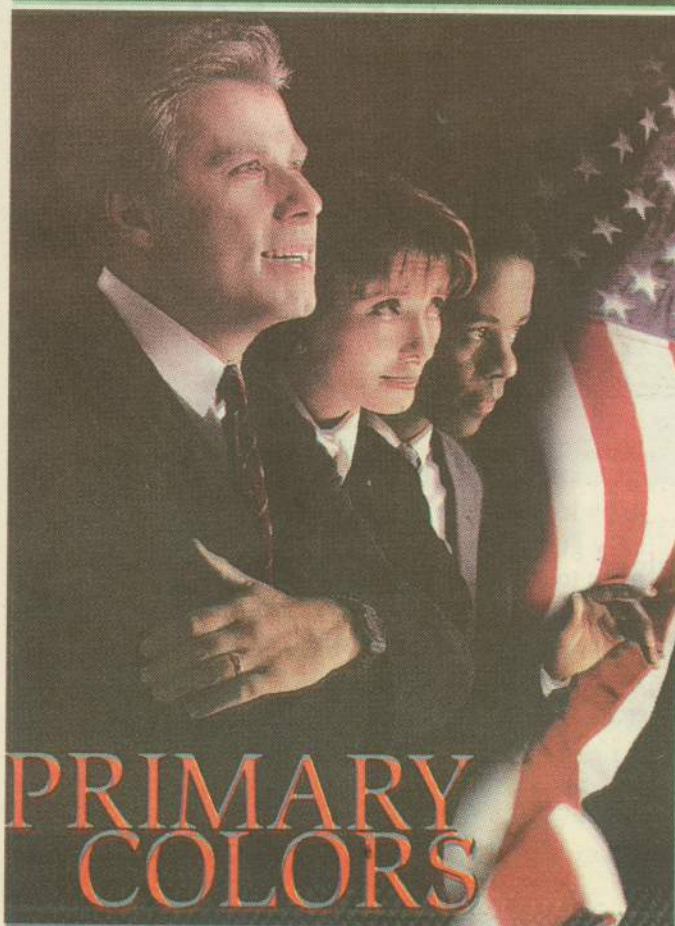
Mercury Rising is a fast paced entertaining mix of hard action and touching drama that has come to characterize this genre of action films - of which Bruce Willis so naturally fits into. He is the crusty, hard-driven hero whose soul is thick and full. Bruce Willis, while not the best of actors, pulls a magnificent performance out of both himself and what is essentially a shallow character. Credit him for backing away from the portrayal and letting the role develop so that as a viewer it was hard to slice the real from the make believe.

Miko Hughes is also exceptional as the adorable but problematic Simon. Though a child himself, he had the grace and focus within character to play a memorable part. Though the script left Simon as a flat central figure, Hughes played it to a tee.

A must-see for action fans and Bruce Willis fans. But also a good choice for the fine performances, pace of action, and though weak in segments - the plot was intriguing and believable.

-Mark M. Milam

MOVIE PREVIEW



Primary Colors goes inside the foils and Tribulations of a presidential campaign

Henry Burton (Adrian Lester) is an idealistic young black man who has reached a crossroad in his life. After three years as a congressional aide on Capitol Hill, Henry is renowned as a brilliant political strategist, but he has grown increasingly disenchanted with politics as usual.

The grandson of the country's most celebrated Civil Rights leader, Henry wants to make history too; tough cynical, he is still looking for someone doing something he can believe in.

But Henry is positive that someone is not Governor Jack Stanton (John Travolta), a virtually unknown southern governor who is running for President of the United States. Stanton is crisscrossing primary states but not yet tracking in the polls. A dark horse who could miss the race, he governor desperately wants Henry Burton on his team.

With considerable reluctance, Henry agrees to check Jack Stanton out. When he meets up with him, Stanton is pressing the flesh at a Harlem rally. Henry watches in astonishment as the perceived cracker politician mesmerizes a tough crowd by touching them all - body and soul.

The crowd is seduced and so is Henry Burton. By the end of the day, Henry has agreed to run Stanton's uphill battle for the presidency-further convinced by his encounter with Susan Stanton

(Emma Thompson), the brilliant, brutally frank eminently attractive wife of the candidate.

Henry immediately sets up campaign headquarters in Mammoth Falls, the sleepy capitol of the Governor's home state and meets his new political family: Richard (Billy Bob Thornton) the sly, improbable political strategist who proudly describes himself as a "Redneck," Libby (Katy Bates) the fanatically loyal, overtly gay, campaign trouble-shooter who always has a big mouth and occasionally carries a big gun, and Daisy (Maura Tierney) the campaign media advisor, young and smart and looking for love.

Together, the Stantons and their young advisors begin their long scandal-riddled roller coaster ride to the presidency-an adventure for Henry and his new friends that will prove at once hilarious and heartbreaking, and definitely history-making.

Universal Pictures and Mutual Film Company present *Primary Colors*, a comedy-drama directed by Mike Nichols, starring John Travolta, Emma Thompson, Billy Bob Thornton, Adrian Lester, Maura Tierney and Kathy Bates. The screenplay is by Elaine May adapted from the best-selling book by Anonymous.

A conversation with the 'King' of Valley Sports



John King, pictured here calling Tuesday's baseball versus St. Mary's, has been active in Valley Sports not only as Bronc play-by-play announcer and radio show host, but as a sports reporter for local television.

-Photo by Reina Martinez

His resume features television interviews with the likes of Jordan, Aikman, and Ryan. On the radio, he is the Valley's king of sports. Now, in his first year as the voice of the Broncs, John King has found a new home behind the microphone.

As play-by-play commentator for Bronc baseball and basketball, King seeks two objectives. He says, "I want to be entertaining and informative...because if you're not no one is going to listen to you anyway."

It's no wonder how sports became his life. Growing up in the Arlington area around a hotbed of professional teams had a tremendous influence. So he decided that sports journalism would be the path to take in choosing a career.

As a bleacher bum at Texas Ranger games, King often wondered about the opportunities available to the people working directly in sports. "I always thought about how great it would be to go to all of those games for free" recalled King.

After graduating from UT-Arlington, King went right to work. As an intern for KXTN NBC in Dallas, he covered many Cowboy's, Ranger's, and Mavericks games regularly. He took every opportunity to polish and perfect his skills as a journalist.

Eventually, his job search took him to Laredo where he served as a sports reporter and weekend sports anchor for CBS affiliate KVTU. After meeting his wife Carmen, he relocated to the Valley taking a similar position at KGBT-TV. He would resign from KGBT in April '97 and make the switch to radio six months later in November and never look back.

King's show, appropriately named, "The King of Sports" airs week nights from 6 to 7 p.m. on AM 840 KVJY. He and co-host Tony Forina provide Valley sports fans with the latest in local and national sports headlines.

Since it is a call-in sports talk-show, listeners have an opportunity to voice their opinions on any sports topic they choose. Listeners may even call the show collect. Currently, "The King of Sports" is the highest rated sports talk-show in the valley.

King said the transition from television has been a smooth and beneficial one. "In my opinion radio blows TV away. It allows me to be unscripted and instead of getting four minutes, I get an hour. I can also cut-up and voice my opinion along with the listener."

King's competitive nature drives him to be the best at whatever he does. Although his ratings are good, he contends they can be better.

"Our show is called 'The King of Sports,' I want to live up to the name. I think we have an opportunity to make the show very successful and popular."

According to King, the Valley has much to offer in the way of sports and the show concentrates much of its efforts to the local sports scene. They cover as much as possible, from high school to college and everything in between.

"Being in the Valley gave me an opportunity to see what is available to the sports fan. I realized that the Valley was in need of a local program that was entertaining and informative."

King's optimistic view of Valley sports reflect his sentiments on the athletic programs at UTPA. Despite the recent lack of success, King believes there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

"With the decisions that the administration made in hiring a Delray Brooks, Reggie Treadway, or a Kathy Haligan...it shows they are taking steps in the right direction."

One of UTPA's finest features according to King is that "UTPA is a big time school with a small time attitude. They don't try to

be any bigger than they are and that is very important."

So what's next for the 'King' of sports? On top of his commitments to the show and UTPA, a 'King of Sports' magazine will be available in August to kick off the anticipated high school football season. Also on the horizon, broadcasting high school football games and possibly an opportunity with the Rio Grande Valley White Wings.

"The nature of this business is being at the right place at the right time and right now I'm excited to be here."

No matter where he goes his impact is felt. King's knowledge of the games he calls coupled with an easy going and competitive attitude make him an asset to the university and Valley sports.

"What I try to bring to the show and to the Broncs is imagination and originality. At the same time, I want to make listening to the games fun."

-Joe Leal / The Pan American

"What I try to bring to the show and to the Broncs is imagination and originality. At the same time, I want to make listening to the games fun."

-John King

Broncs rock 10-2 in game 1 but let St. Mary's Steal 4-3 nightcap to split doubleheader

Leo Salinas nailed a grand-slam home run to power UTPA over St. Mary's University, 10-2, but the Rattlers from San Antonio edged UTPA in the nightcap Tuesday, 4-3.

Freshman Jason Thompson (3-4) pitched the Broncs to victory in the opener of the fiercely contested non-conference doubleheader. Art Dillahay (4-2) earned St. Mary's 4-3 victory in relief, after ace Johnny Arnold came out of the bullpen for a save.

Catcher T.J. Rodriguez of St Mary's nearly was the goat of the 4-3 thriller, when he threw away Andy Adams' bunt for a two-base error leading off the sixth inning. Rodriguez came back to pick Gabe De La Garza off second base after he doubled to start the seventh.

"We really played well, at a high level, the first game," said Reggie Tredaway, UTPA coach. "I was really disappointed the second game. St. Mary's has got a good club and did well the second game. You can't be up emotionally and down emotionally, game by game. You have to find a plateau and play steadily every game."

St. Mary's raised its record to 29-9 with the split. The Broncs are now 14-22 going into a big Sun Belt Conference series against New Orleans, a half-game behind them, here Friday and Saturday.

Sam Price, UTPA's Player of the Week in the Sun Belt Conference, reinjured a hamstring running the bases after a hit in the opener. He nearly collapsed in pain running into third base.

"He pulled the same hamstring that was bothering him, so he's doubtful for this weekend," Tredaway said. "He's been feeling real good lately. It's a big loss to the ballclub. We've just got to step up and play without him until he's ready."

Randy Socha's bases-loaded triple powered St. Mary's to a four-run second inning that beat Bronc starter Saul Galan (1-2).

Salinas' grand-slam followed Juan Rangel's single, a walk to De La Garza, Jeff Moore safe on an error and T.D. Taylor hit by a pitch.



Jason Thompson (3-4) led the Broncs to victory in Game 1.

-Photo by Reina Martinez

-UTPA Sports Reports

Lady Bronc Tennis team Tops Louisiana Tech

BEAUMONT - The Lady Bronc tennis team got off to a good start at the Lamar Quadrangular Meet by posting a 5-2 victory over Louisiana Tech on Friday. Senior Karen Bowley defeated Louisiana Tech's Wendy Zatloukai in a tough three-set match 6-3, 6-7, 6-4 as the Lady Broncs won four of the six singles matches. Also winning singles matches were freshman Sagnite Garcia, junior Gladys Fernandez, and sophomore Kristine Getchell. The doubles team of Fernandez and Getchell also came away with an 8-3 victory for the Lady Broncs.

In the second match on Friday, the Lady Broncs were defeated by Lamar University 9-0. Freshman Katie Corkill lost a tough three-set match 2-6, 6-1, 1-6

in flight No.4 as the Lady Broncs were unable to post a victory against the Lady Cardinals.

On Saturday, the Lady Broncs were defeated by the University of New Orleans 5-4 in the final match of the quadrangular meet.

Corkill defeated Claudia Coleman 6-2, 6-3 to win her first match of the meet in flight No.4.

Getchell won her second match of the meet by defeating Erica Schmitt 6-0, 6-4 in flight No.6. Corkill and junior

Yvette Martinez won their doubles match 8-4 against UNO's Yolande DuPreez and Claudia Coleman. Fernandez and Getchell won their doubles match due to an injury on the other team.

The Broncs now prepare for the Sun Belt Conference Championship hosted by South Alabama April 16-19.

-UTPA Sports Reports



Men's Tennis team bounced At Lamar Meet

BEAUMONT- The UTPA Men's Tennis team was swept at the Lamar Quadrangular Meet Friday and Saturday. The Broncs lost a tight first match 4-3 against the University Of Texas-San Antonio Roadrunners on Friday. The Broncs and the Roadrunners split the six singles matches.

Sophomore Jorge Cuesta won the first point for the Broncs by defeating UTSA's Victor Sanchez 7-5, 6-0 in flight No. 2. Bronc senior Brian Smith defeated Michael Lachelt 7-6, 6-1 in flight No. 3. Sophomore Tri Phan won, 3-6, 7-6 as UTSA's Henrik Rikardsson was forced to retire the match following the second set flight No.4.

UTSA closed out the match by winning two of the three doubles matches. Smith and senior Alex Rasera won their doubles match 9-8 by defeating Bryan Benshoof and Rikardsson in a tie-breaker 8-6. Later, the Broncs were defeated by the University of New Orleans 6-1 in their second match on Friday. Senior Alex Rasera won his singles match against UNO's Benat Uygur by a score of 7-6, 2-6, 6-4 as the Broncs dropped the other five singles matches. UNO won two of the three doubles matches.

The Broncs, suffered a tough loss as sophomore Juan Jose Hamdan suffered a shoulder injury in his doubles match. Hamdan was forced to default his singles match due to the injury. The Broncs are already playing without their top senior Rafael Gonzalez.

Without Hamdan and Gonzalez, the Broncs were defeated 5-2 by the University of Lamar in the final match on Saturday. Lamar won the match by winning four of the six singles matches, as UTPA's Smith and Rasera came away with victories in their singles matches. Lamar swept the doubles matches.

-UTPA Sports Reports

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